

WI-136  
Brattan-Taylor Store Building  
Mardela Springs  
Private

c. 1838, c. 1855 and later

Historically identified as the Brattan-Taylor store, this two-story, three-bay frame structures marks the intersection of Main and Branch streets in the center of Mardela Springs. The hyphenated name recognizes the Brattan and Taylor families, both of whom operated the store during the nineteenth century and were principal contributors to its current appearance.

The uniform two-story, three-bay, gable-front elevation belies a more complex architectural history. Buried inside the current walls of the two-story structure are the remnants of a second quarter of the nineteenth century 16' x 22' feet building. The most obvious references to the earlier structure are found in a full cellar under the store building. Excavated to a depth of approximately six feet, the brick walled cellar has a herringbone brick floor under a later layer of concrete. The original floor joists and wide pine flooring, although deteriorated, are clearly visible, and the foundation wall is pierced by cellar windows made obsolete by later additions. On the east side, the foundation extends to include a former space occupied by a bulkhead entrance. During the third quarter of the nineteenth century the original store was heavily reworked and expanded to each side. The store interior contains shelving from the mid to late nineteenth century. One of the most distinctive features is the set of double leaf front doors. Removable paneled panels above the lock rail allowed an option for either solid paneled doors or

doors with a glazed upper panels.

The oldest remnants of the store are estimated to date to the second quarter of the nineteenth century, probably as early as the 1830s when the land, known as "Ill Neighborhood," was held by Joshua Brattan, who also owned the Barren Creek Springs Hotel across the street. He died on November 29, 1838, and in his will, he devised to his son Joseph Brattan, "*my right in the store at Barren Creek Springs and the accounts..and also my right in the schooner Eliza Eleanor.*" Joseph Brattan's principal occupation was the management of the Barren Creek Springs Hotel across the street, and he is listed in the 1850 United States Census as a 34-year old "landlord" along with his wife and children. The store was managed by Thomas B. Taylor, a 25-year old "clerk," who, in 1850, resided in the household of ship carpenter Onismas Wailes. A few years later, Thomas B. Taylor purchased the store and its contents from Joseph Brattan. Ten years later, he surfaces in the United States census as a prosperous merchant with real estate and personal property valued at a substantial \$5,000. Like Joshua Brattan before him, Thomas B. Taylor (1823-1901) had several commercial concerns, one of which was half interest in a schooner, the *Chesapeake Trader*, which was built in Vienna and rigged in Baltimore. The *Chesapeake Trader* carried various cargoes of pig iron, lumber, coal, lime or perhaps corn to large East Coast cities, primarily Baltimore, Philadelphia, and Washington, D. C.

In partnership with James E. Bacon, Thomas B. Taylor also owned the Mardela Springs Hotel and Spring, which by the late nineteenth century had grown in reputation to warrant a small bottling plant. (See WI-80) According to a biography published in 1898, Thomas B. Taylor also served politically as a member of the Board of County Commissioners in its formative years, and he was elected later, in 1883, as a member of the state legislature, serving one term.

At the settlement of Thomas B. Taylor's estate, the store property was acquired by Stephen A. Calloway, who resided in a Victorian house on the east side of the lot. The last major proprietors of the store were Mr. and Mrs. Rowe Elliott, who operated the business between 1919 and the early 1970s.

RESOURCE NAME: Brattan-Taylor Store Building

MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: WI-136

1. Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture  
Commerce

2. Geographic Orientation: Eastern Shore

3. Chronological/Development Period(s): Agricultural-Industrial Transition  
1815-1870

4. Resource Type(s): Store

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

**MARYLAND INVENTORY OF**  
**HISTORIC PROPERTIES**

Survey No. WI-136

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic Brattan-Taylor Store Building

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number Northeast corner of Main and Branch Streets not for publication

city, town Mardela Springs vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Wicomico

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name J. Howard and Louise Adkins

street & number 1010 Camden Avenue telephone no.:

city, town Salisbury state and zip code MD 21801

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court liber AJS 921

street & number Wicomico County Courthouse folio 357

city, town Salisbury state MD 21801

**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

## Condition

☐ excellent  
☒ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

## Check one

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

## Check one

☒ original site  
☐ moved      date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Brattan-Taylor store building is located on the northeast corner of the intersection of Main and Branch streets in the village of Mardela Springs, Wicomico County, Maryland. The two-story, three-bay, gable-front frame store faces south with the principal roof oriented on a north/south axis.

Built in stages during the second and third quarters of the nineteenth century, the two-story gable-front structure incorporates a single-story 16' x 22' structure that comprised the initial store, probably only a single story in height around 1838. During the third quarter of the nineteenth century, between c. 1855 and the 1870s several additions and alterations were made to the original structure which produced the current two-story building that is extended on two sides by single-story additions. The entire building is uniformly sheathed with vinyl siding, and the medium pitched gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The brick foundation is covered with a coat of stucco.

The south (main) elevation is a three-bay gable-front facade with a center double-door entrance and flanking two-over-two sash windows. The double leaf doors have boldly molded lower panels typical of the third quarter of the nineteenth century. Unusual to the door design are removable top panels that provide an alternative between a solid upper panel or a glazed panel. The first floor is sheltered by a hip roof porch supported by metal posts encased in wood. The second floor is lighted by two six-over-one sash windows. The edge of the roof is extended and encased with vinyl. Short returns finish the base.

The east side of the store is extended by a single-story addition that has a separate entrance on its narrow south front. The second floor of the store is lighted by six-over-six sash windows, and a narrow brick stove flue pierces the edge of the roof. The west side is marked by an asymmetrical fenestration of six-over-six sash windows. The current owner of the property, J. Howard Adkins, described the location of a pilaster that marks the wall under the vinyl siding. The pilaster probably defined the original end of the mid nineteenth century building.

Attached to the back of the two-story structure is a single story addition that is accessed by a side entrance.

The store interior dates from the third quarter of the nineteenth century with shelving on the east and west sides. A trap door in the narrow board floor allows access to the full cellar. The cellar space reveals the original size of the second quarter of the nineteenth century store. A part of the herringbone brick floor is exposed. Overhead the original floor joists and wide pine flooring remain in deteriorated but intact condition. Located on the east side of the foundation is a small extension of the foundation that formerly housed a ladder stair for a bulkhead entrance. On the other walls, the brick foundation is pierced by small window openings that have been made obsolete by the later additions.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. WI-136

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

### Specific dates

### Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

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<sup>1</sup> John E. Jacob. *Graveyards and Gravestones of Wicomico*, Salisbury, MD. p. 12.

<sup>2</sup> Somerset County Register of Wills, JP 5/35, Probated 11 December 1838.





WI-136  
Brattan-Taylor Store  
Main Street  
Mardela Springs, Wicomico County, Maryland

A J S 921/357                      Maurice C. Elliott  
Mary C. Elliott

to

7/6/1979                      J. Howard Adkins  
Louise H. Adkins

“Store House Lot”

A J S 915/70                      Mary C. Elliott

to

2/5/1979                      Maurice C. Elliott  
Mary C. Elliott

JWTS 285/85                      J. Asbury Holloway

to

1/23/1947                      Mary C. Elliott  
A. Rowe Elliott

Part of the Stephen Calloway real estate

JWTS 285/84                      A. Rowe Elliott  
Mary C. Elliott

to

1/21/1947                      J. Asbury Holloway

“Store House Lot”

WI-136  
Brattan-Taylor Store  
Main Street  
Mardela Springs, Wicomico County, Maryland  
Chain of title continued

Page 2

JCK 112/9

Pattie E. Calloway

to

1/4/1919

Mary C. Elliott  
A. Rour Elliott

JTT 37/214

Jay Williams, Executor of Thomas B. Taylor, de'cd

to

4/6/1903

Stephen A. Calloway

Decree of Circuit Court, William R. Elzey against Jay  
Williams, executor of Thomas B. Taylor

Lot No. 1 and 12  
Chancery Case No. 1380

Lot No. 1 sold at \$955  
Lot No. 2 sold at \$875 (Store Lot)

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Brattan-Taylor Store Building  
Main Street  
Mardela Springs, Wicomico County, Maryland  
Chain of title continued

Page 3

Somerset County  
Land Record  
LW 1/149

Joseph Brattan  
Elizabeth Brattan

to

2/20/1852

Thomas B. Taylor

\$50.00 a lot of land at Barren Creek Springs laid out  
of a tract called Ill Neighborhood

Somerset County  
Will Book  
JP 5/35

Last Will and Testament of Joshua Brattan

Probated  
12/11/1838

I give and devise unto my son Joseph Brattan all that  
tract of land which I purchased of the United States  
commonly known by the name of Barren Creek  
Springs, all of my lands which I purchased of Thomas  
Gillis.....also my right in the store at Barren Creek  
Springs and the accounts.....and also my right in the  
schooner Eliza Eleanor

wife and children.<sup>3</sup> The store was managed by Thomas B. Taylor, a 25-year old “clerk,” who, in 1850, resided in the household of ship carpenter Onismas Wailes.<sup>4</sup> A few years later, Thomas B. Taylor purchased the store and its contents from Joseph Brattan.<sup>5</sup> Ten years later, he surfaces in the United States census as a prosperous merchant with real estate and personal property valued at a substantial \$5,000.<sup>6</sup> Like Joshua Bratten before him, Thomas B. Taylor (1823-1901) had several commercial concerns, one of which was half interest in a schooner, the *Chesapeake Trader*, which was built in Vienna and rigged in Baltimore.<sup>7</sup> The *Chesapeake Trader* carried various cargoes of pig iron, lumber, coal, lime, or perhaps corn to large East Coast cities, primarily Baltimore, Philadelphia and Washington, D. C.

In partnership with James E. Bacon, Thomas B. Taylor also owned the Mardela Springs Hotel and Spring, which by the late nineteenth century had grown in reputation to warrant a small bottling plant. (See WI-80) According to a biography published in 1898, Thomas B. Taylor also served politically as a member of the Board of County Commissioners in its formative years, and he was elected later, in 1883, as a member of the state legislature, serving one term.<sup>8</sup>

At the settlement of Thomas B. Taylor’s estate, the store property was acquired by Stephen A. Calloway, who resided in a Victorian house on the east side of the lot.<sup>9</sup> The last major proprietors of the store were Mr. and Mrs. Rowe Elliott, who operated the business between 1919 and the early 1970s.<sup>10</sup>

The store deserves listing in *Category A*, which identifies buildings of high architectural and historical merit.

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<sup>3</sup> Seventh Census of the United States, Somerset County, Transcribed by Ruth Dryden.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>5</sup> Somerset County Land Record, LW 1/149, 20 February 1852. Note: This deed does not mention the store specifically, but records held by the store’s current owner, J. Howard and Louise Adkins, indicate that John B. Taylor started to make substantial changes to the building between 1852 and 1855.

<sup>6</sup> Eighth Census of the United States, Somerset County, Transcribed by John C. Barnes.

<sup>7</sup> Lists of building materials for the *Chesapeake Trader* are owned by J. Howard and Louise Adkins. The ship was owned by John B. Taylor and Dr. Levi R. Brattan.

<sup>8</sup> *Portrait and Biographical Record of the Eastern Shore of Maryland*, New York and Chicago: Chapman Publishing Company, 1898, p. 680.

<sup>9</sup> Wicomico County Land Record, JTT 37/214, 6 April 1903.

<sup>10</sup> J. Howard and Louise Adkins, “Brattan-Taylor Village Store, Mardela Springs,” no date, no pagination.

hood and also to assist in the support of the family, and this work he bravely took upon himself, discharging his duty to his parents with filial affection and caring for them as long as they lived. After the death of his father, in 1869, he married Mary A. Baxter, and at the same time built the house that he has since occupied. He and his wife are the parents of seven children, named as follows: Charles V.; Annie, wife of William Thomas; Carrie; Thomas E., Kirby, Howard A. and Celia M.

When a mere lad our subject began life upon the bay, sailing from Baltimore and working at dredging along the Eastern Shore. For his life-work he has engaged in tonging and oystering, in which he has met with success. He owns a farm comprising eighteen acres, upon which there is a valuable peach orchard. By industry and economy he has acquired an independence and financial prosperity that make him one of the prominent men of his neighborhood. The principles of the Democratic party always receive his active support, and in fraternal relations he is identified with the Improved Order of Heptasophs.



**H**ON. THOMAS B. TAYLOR is identified with many of the important interests of Wicomico County, for, though to some extent retired from active business pursuits, he still has sufficient to occupy his attention in the management of his various investments. In partnership with James E. Bacon, he owns the well-known Mardela Springs and hotel. In the early days of Maryland's history, when the red men still roamed through its forests and in its valleys, the Indians knew of the existence of this spring and frequently resorted to it. As early as 1795 a hotel was built on the grounds by Major Russum, and from that time to this the place has been visited by health-seekers. The water is a strong alkaline chalybeate and aids digestion, besides being of value in the treatment of chronic diseases. It is carbonated and bottled at the springs and its virtues

are those endowed by nature only. It contains the essentials for building up the vital forces after mental strain or overwork. Testimonials from the leading physicians of Baltimore indicate that its use is curative in many diseases where other waters have failed.

Mr. Taylor was born near Mardela Springs September 5, 1823. His grandfather, Levin Taylor, was born in Barren Creek district, then Somerset County, and, with his four brothers and their father, James, rendered brave service in the Revolution. James was a son of William, who came to Maryland from England and settled in Somerset County, where succeeding generations have dwelt. Thomas, the father of our subject, was born on the old homestead in Barren Creek district and was a soldier in the war of 1812. Throughout active life he was a sailor, and while following that occupation died of yellow fever in Key West in 1832. He married Eliza Smith, of Delaware, who died at the birth of our subject. She left three children, Ellen, who married Henry Vickers, of Baltimore; Uriah and Thomas B.

At the age of nineteen, having completed his education, our subject began to teach school, and that occupation he followed for three years. He then secured employment as clerk in a store. In 1850 he purchased his employer's stock of goods, and from that time until 1890 he carried on the store at Mardela Springs, meeting with financial success in the enterprise. After a mercantile experience of forty years he sold out and retired from the business. Besides this line of work he has done considerable surveying. He is the owner of five farms, aggregating about twelve hundred acres, and also has some valuable town property. He is a Democrat in his political belief, and on that ticket was elected a member of the board of county commissioners in 1869. In 1883 he was elected a member of the state legislature, serving one term, and was more than once offered the nomination as judge of the orphans' court, but declined. Religiously a member of the Methodist Protestant Church, in which he serves as a trustee, he has also been superintendent of the Sunday-school for twenty-one years. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Temple

## PORTRAIT AND BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD.

681

No. 170, of Sharptown; also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Goodwill Lodge No. 112, of Mardela Springs, and of the Heptasophs, of Salisbury.



**A**RTHUR B. COCHRANE is the senior member of the firm of A. B. Cochrane & Co., of Crisfield, Somerset County. This firm owns the largest lumber yards in the place and keeps in constant operation two mills for the manufacture of all kinds of finished and rough lumber. They carry a full line of sash, doors, moulding, etc., in short, everything required by builders or the general trade. They own a sawmill situated on the Pocomoke River, in this county, and also import great quantities of lumber from other parts of the southern states.

The father of our subject was James L. Cochrane, who died a few years ago in Kent County, Del., where he had resided from the time of his retirement from the commercial world. He was a native of Massachusetts and there spent his early life. He followed the occupations of contracting and building in the Bay State and later in New York City, and was very successful. When about sixty years old he retired to enjoy the competence which he had laid aside for the purpose in his vigorous prime, and in quiet contentment the remainder of his days, some eighteen years, were passed. His father, also James by name, was a native of Massachusetts and lived to the extreme age of ninety years. He was of Scotch extraction and served in the war of 1812. He was an agriculturist as had been many of his ancestors. The mother of our subject was a Miss Mary Hallock in her girlhood. She was born in England and is now in her seventy-ninth year. Of her four children Robert W. is a resident of this town; Addie is the wife of John W. Thawley; and Lucy is Mrs. J. Edward Cahill, of Caroline County, Md.

Arthur B. Cochrane was born May 27, 1862, in Windham County, Conn. He remained there until he was nine years old, when with his

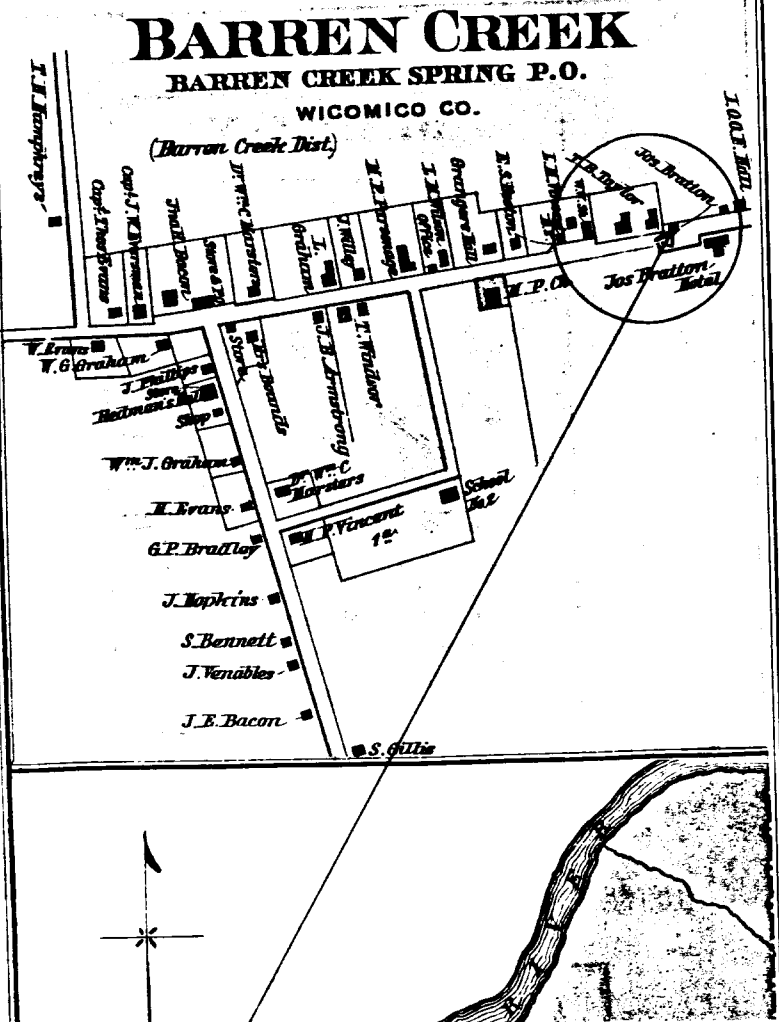
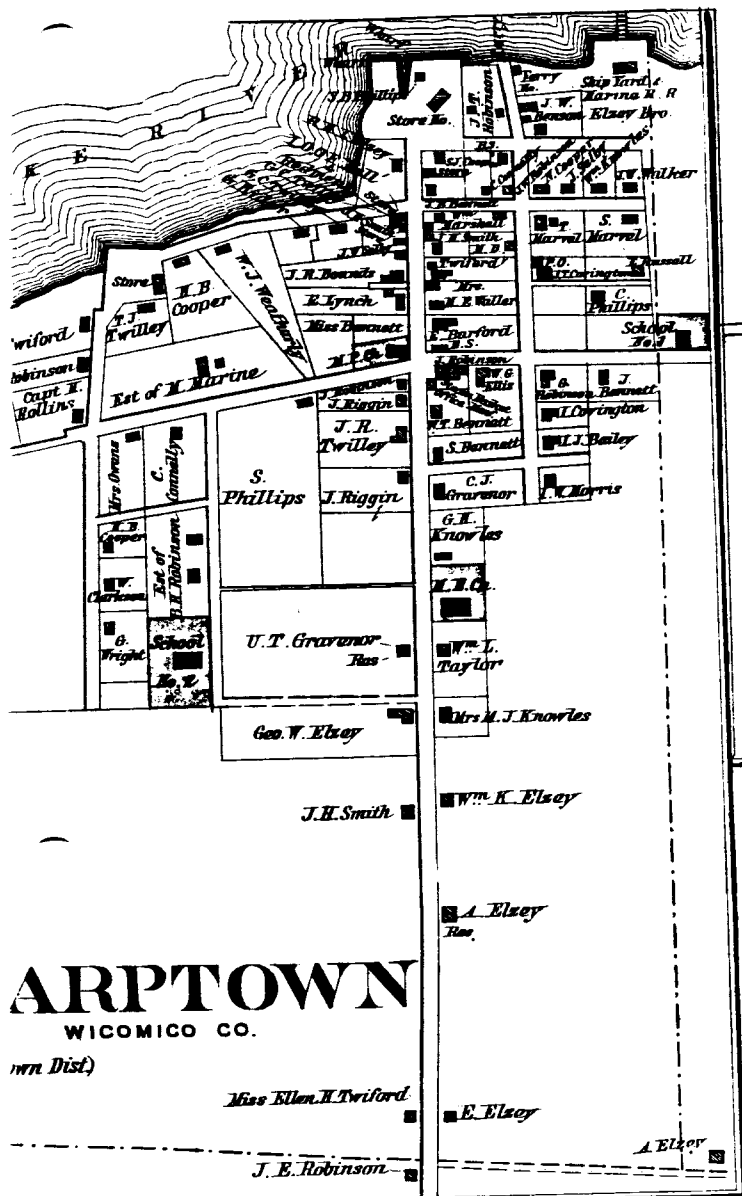
parents he removed to Brooklyn, N. Y. He received a public-school education, supplemented by a commercial course of training in Bryant & Stratton's Business College. Soon after passing his majority he came to Somerset County and was interested in a saw mill business here up to 1893. At that time he took charge of a lumber yard and sawmill, as manager, and in 1893 entered into partnership with I. H. Coulbourn and George W. Long (see sketch of former printed upon another page.) in the same line of business. He is still acting as manager of the plant and is doing well.

A Master Mason, Mr. Cochrane belongs to Chesapeake Lodge No. 147, F. & A. M., of Crisfield. He is a stanch Democrat and quite a worker in the party. Religiously he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and is a teacher in the Sunday-school. In 1892 Mr. Cochrane married Miss Amy Coulbourn, daughter of Joseph Coulbourn, of Lawson's district, and they have two children, Stanley and Ada.



**M**ACKENZIE GOLDSBOROUGH is now living retired from the arduous duties which rest upon the active participants in the battles of the world of commerce, and enjoys his quiet retirement in the society of his loved ones in their beautiful and cultured home. This country seat is called Ammere, and consists of a tract of well-improved land, numbering sixty-two and a-half acres, in the first district of Talbot County. The pretty and accomplished wife of the subject of this notice is a charming hostess and delights to extend a cordial welcome to the many sincere friends of herself and husband.

The father of Mr. Goldsborough, James N., was born in this county, upon the place known as Ottwell, and was a son of Nicholas Goldsborough. The chief occupation of James N. was that of agriculture, in which he was quite successful. He was a vestryman in the Episcopal Church, and died strong in the faith he had professed many years, in 1870. He was twice married, his first wife being Mary, daughter of Commodore Ken-



WI-136  
Brattan-Taylor Store Building  
Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson  
Atlas 1877

**BARREN CREEK BUSINESS REFERENCES.**

**LEVIN M. WILSON**, Farmer and Tax Collector for Wicomico Co.

**THOMAS B. TAYLOR**, Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries and all Kinds of Goods usually kept in a Country Store.

**J. B. ARMSTRONG**, Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Boots, Shoes, Hats, Caps, Notions, &c.

**L. M. VINCENT**, Wheelwright. All Works in his line done to order.

**E. S. BOSTON**, Blacksmith. All Work in his line done neatly and to order.

**JOHN H. BACON**, Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware, Boots, Shoes, Hats, Caps, Notions, and all goods usually kept in a country store.

**J. W. PHILLIPS**, Proprietor of "Barren Creek Springs Hotel."

**W. C. MARSTERS**, Physician and Surgeon.

**W. J. WEATHERLY**, Carpenter, Contractor and Builder.

**THOS. J. WINDSOR**, Carpenter, Contractor and Builder.

**A. E. ACWORTH**, Teacher and Farmer.

**A. H. CALLAWAY**, Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Notions and all Goods usually kept in a country store.

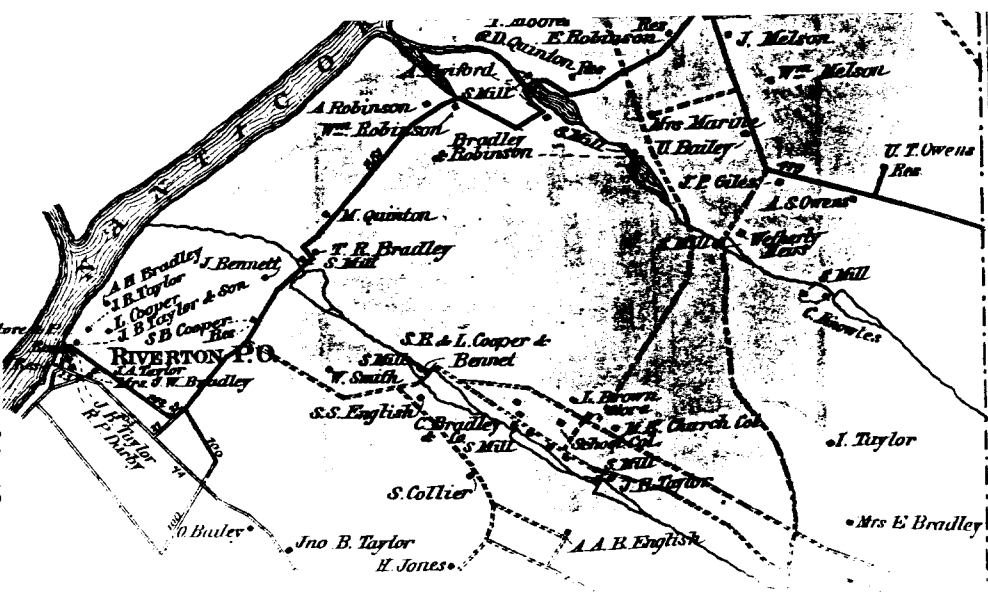
**J. W. BRADLEY**, Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Notions and all Goods usually kept in a country store.

**ISAAC L. ENGLISH**, Teacher and Farmer.

**ALBERT M. BOUNDS**, School Commissioner.

**ROBERT L. LLOYD**, Ship Carpenter.

**ROBERT W. HOWARD**, School-keeper.







## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

**Brattan-Taylor Building**

AND/OR COMMON

**Country Store, Store House****2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

**Main and Branch Streets****1st**

CITY, TOWN

**Mardela Springs**

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

**Wicomico**

STATE

**Maryland**

COUNTY

**3 CLASSIFICATION****CATEGORY**☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT**OWNERSHIP**☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED**STATUS**☐ OCCUPIED☒ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS**ACCESSIBLE**☐ YES: RESTRICTED☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO**PRESENT USE**☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☒ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

**J. Howard and Louise Hammond Adkins**

Telephone #: 749-4871

STREET &amp; NUMBER

**1010 Camden Avenue**

CITY, TOWN

**Salisbury**

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**Maryland 21801****5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.**Wicomico County**

Liber #: AJS 921

Folio #: 357

STREET &amp; NUMBER

**Main and N. Division Streets**

CITY, TOWN

**Salisbury**

STATE

**Maryland 21801****6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

**NONE**

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

WI-136

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Brattan-Taylor Country Store, located at the corner of Main and Branch Streets in Mardela Springs, Wicomico County, Maryland, stands on its original site and was built circa 1838. The store as it looks in 1982 is a rehabilitated gabled-roof wooden structure with vinyl siding. The building is detached, rectangular, 2 1/2 stories with a basement and one chimney. The entire building measures 36 feet wide and 48 feet long. The old store portion is 24 feet wide and 32 feet long. Regulation windows and four doors have been installed in recent years. The store has a double front door which is believed to be the original. The old iron lock on the front door has an unusual folding iron key. There are no porches on the structure but the facade has a shed-roofed shelter extending over the sidewalk, typical of earlier small-town stores. An ell addition was built in the 1930s, changing the location of some of the windows (see attached sheet).

Originally, the structure measured 16 x 22 feet, had only one story, and a brick-floored cellar. Two original wooden window sashes were found stored in the basement and were probably removed from the structure when it was enlarged between 1855-56. The original outside entry to the cellar, closed about 1901, is still visible in the cellar. Some of the original ironwork used on the double front door is in the store. The two front windows on the first floor are originals. Except for the installation of electricity, the store is essentially the same as it was following the 1856 expansion. Fourteen-inch-wide heart pine shelf boards and the counter top are still in place. The property currently has no outbuildings.

Many original documents pertaining to the building are in the possession of J. Howard and Louise H. Adkins, and other evidence is available upon examination of the store structure.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES Circa 1838

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Brattan-Taylor Country Store is an example of a typical village general store of the mid to late 1800s. Usually the store owner/keeper "wore many hats," so the country store was the hub of activity in the community. Country stores, such as the Brattan-Taylor one, have been removed from the American scene in many cases, therefore, eradicating a past lifestyle.

Based on the will of Joshua Brattan who died November 29, 1838, the store house was in existence at that time, and it is assumed that Mr. Bratten was the original storekeeper.

In 1845, Thomas B. Taylor was working in the store as a clerk. He "bought out" his employer's stock of goods in 1850. The owner of the store at that time was Joseph Brattan, a son of the original owner. Thomas B. Taylor had a business partner named Washington R. Melson, and they operated their store under the name of Melson & Taylor until 1853. Melson terminated his partnership with Taylor in 1853 and moved to St. Michaels, Maryland.

Thomas B. Taylor, in partnership with a member of the Brattan family, had a schooner, "Chesapeake Trader," built in 1856. Based on documents relating to the schooner, it is believed it was designed for coastal trading.

Between 1869 and 1890, Taylor held many responsible positions in Wicomico County. He was elected a member of the Board of County Commissioners, served as treasurer of Wicomico County, and was elected and served one term in the Maryland General Assembly. He and a partner became well known in 1890 for their bottled mineral water taken from Barren Creek Springs.

After Thomas B. Taylor died in 1901, the store owners have included Stephen A. Calloway, Pattie E. Calloway, his wife; Mary A. and A. Rowe Elliott; Maurice C. and Mary C. Elliott; and currently, J. Howard and Louise H. Adkins. When the Adkinses purchased the property in 1979, valuable documents were found in the store, i.e., store ledgers, invoices, post office records, Barren Creek Springs Hotel records (hotel burned in 1914), information about the sailing schooners that brought the merchandise in from the ports of Baltimore, Philadelphia, and other places.

Contd.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Town Lot**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

Corner of Main and Branch Streets in the town of Mardela Springs, Wicomico County. These two streets are the west and the south boundaries. East and north boundaries go to adjoining property owned by J. Howard and Louise H. Adkins known as the Gelston Daugherty property.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE N/A COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE	Lucile H. Horsley, Member, Wicomico County Committee		
ORGANIZATION	Jacqueline F. Dianich, Chairman, Wicomico County Committee		
	DATE	May 26, 1982	
STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE		
	203 E. William Street	Office 749-3696	Home 543-1703
CITY OR TOWN	STATE	MD 21801	
	Salisbury,		

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

# MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

WI-136

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

### 1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

### 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

STATE

COUNTY

### 3 CLASSIFICATION

#### CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT  
☐ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

#### OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC  
☐ PRIVATE  
☐ BOTH  
**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**  
☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

#### STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED  
☐ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS  
**ACCESSIBLE**  
☐ YES: RESTRICTED  
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☐ NO

#### PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM  
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK  
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER:

### 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

### 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

### 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

NO. OF

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

SOURCE

CITY, TOWN

STATE

NOTED

7

## DESCRIPTION

See MHT slide nos. 53405 thru 53412

WI-136

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Brattan-Taylor Country Store, located at the corner of Main and Branch Streets in Mardela Springs, Wicomico County, Maryland, stands on its original site and was built circa 1838. The store as it looks in 1982 is a rehabilitated gabled-roof wooden structure with vinyl siding. The building is detached, rectangular, 2 1/2 stories with a basement and one chimney. The entire building measures 36 feet wide and 48 feet long. The old store portion is 24 feet wide and 32 feet long. Regulation windows and four doors have been installed in recent years. The store has a double front door which is believed to be the original. The old iron lock on the front door has an unusual folding iron key. There are no porches on the structure but the front facade has a shed-roofed shelter extending over a cement platform. The roof is supported by four plain squarish columns which have been added in recent years. An ell addition was built in the 1930s, changing the location of some of the windows (see attached sheet).

The west side of the old store has three 6/6 sash windows on the first floor and three 6/6 sash windows on the second floor. A new door is situated between the back two windows.

The back (north) side of the structure has a rectangular addition completely covering the store and the addition houses apartments. The addition has two 6/1 sash windows. There is one 6/6 window on the second floor.

On the east side of the building the addition extends the full length of the store on the first floor. The addition has three sets of double windows which are 6/1 and one single window. Between the two back sets of windows is a single door. On the second floor are three 6/1 windows which are on the store structure. A single brick chimney is on the east side of the old store structure.

Originally, the structure measured 16 x 22 feet, had only one story, and a brick-floored cellar. Two original wooden window sashes were found stored in the basement and were probably removed from the structure when it was enlarged between 1855-56. The original outside entry to the cellar, closed about 1901, is still visible in the cellar. Some of the original ironwork used on the double front door is in the store. The two front windows on the first floor are originals and have 2/2 sashes. Except for the installation of electricity, the inside of the store is essentially the same as it was following the 1856 expansion. Fourteen-inch-wide heart pine shelf boards and the counter top are still in place. The property currently has no out-buildings.

Many original documents pertaining to the building are in the possession of J. Howard and Louise H. Adkins, and other evidence is available upon examination of the store structure.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE Contd.**

Further elaboration about the storekeeper's role in the community is given in the attached story by the Adkinses entitled By the Fountain of Sweet Waters - Mardela Springs, Maryland.

The store operated continuously from 1838 to 1966.

## CHAIN OF TITLE

Brattan-Taylor Building  
(Old Country Store)  
Main and Branch Streets  
Mardela Springs, Maryland 21837

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- 1838 Joshua Brattan, of Somerset County, transferred to his son Anthony  
3/28 Brattan a part of a tract of land, adjoining "Young's Purchase"  
lying on Barren Creek, known by the name of "Ill Neighborhood".  
Somerset County Land Records. Liber GH No.9, f376-377.
- 1840 Anthony Brattan and Sarah Ann Brattan, his wife, sold to Joseph  
11/13 Brattan a parcel of land "containing one acre three quarters and  
twenty square peices"\*part of a tract called "Ill Neighborhood",  
beginning at the first boulder of a tract called "Young's Purchase"  
and lying on the road from Barren Creek Springs to Vienna.  
Somerset County Land Records. Liber LH, f425-426.
- 1852 Joseph Brattan and Elizabeth Brattan, his wife, sold to Thomas B.  
2/20 Taylor, of Somerset County, a lot or parcel of land at Barren Creek  
Springs, "laid out of a tract of land called 'Ill Neighborhood'...  
on north side of the County road leading from Barren Creek Springs  
to Vienna".  
Somerset County Land Records. Liber LW 1, f149.
- 1902 Stephen A. Calloway purchased "all that lot of ground at the corner  
2/26 of Main and Branch Streets in the said village" (Mardela Springs,  
formerly known as Barren Creek Springs), "improved by a store house".  
Wicomico County Chancery Court. Liber EAT No.8, f289. Item 12.
- 1903 Stephen A. Calloway received a deed from Jay Williams, executor of  
4/6 Thomas B. Taylor, deceased, for the property purchased at the estate  
sale of Thomas B. Taylor held on February 26, 1902.  
Wicomico County Land Records. Liber JTT No. 37, f214.
- 1915 Stephen A. Callaway, "merchant of Mardela Springs", in his will  
3/9 entered for probate March 9, 1915, left his property in Mardela Springs,  
including the store house and merchandise, to his wife, Pattie E.  
Calloway, during her natural life, and after her death the store house  
and merchandise was to go to his daughter, Mary A. Elliott, wife of  
A. Roe Elliott.  
Wicomico County Wills. Liber JWD No.1, f61.
- 1919 Pattie E. Calloway, wife of Stephen A. Calloway, deceased, deeded to  
1/4 Mary A. Elliott and A Rour Elliott, her husband, all her life interest  
in "the store house and lot, being the same property conveyed by deed  
from Jay Williams to S. A. Calloway.  
Wicomico County Land Records. Liber JWS No.285, f84.

\* perches



## CHAIN OF TITLE

Brattan-Taylor Building  
(Old Country Store)  
Main and Branch Streets  
Mardela Springs, Maryland 21837

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- 1947  
1/21 A.Rowe Elliott and Mary C. Elliott, his wife "(the same as Mary A. Elliott)", of Wicomico County, received a deed from J. Asbury Holloway for the parcel of land in Barren Creek Election District on the northside and binding on Main Street, bounded on the west by Branch Street, and known as the "Store House Lot", being part of the same land which Stephen A. Calloway devised to his wife, Pattie E. Calloway, as life tenant, and at her death to her daughter Mary A. Elliott.  
Wicomico County Land Records. Liber JWTS No.285, f84.
- 1979  
2/5 Mary C. Elliott, widow, transferred to Maurice C. Elliott and Mary C. Elliott, as joint tenants, that lot lying in Barren Creek District on the northside and binding on Main Street in Mardela Springs, known as the "Store House Lott".  
Wicomico County Land Records. Liber AJS No.915, f70.
- 1979  
7/6 Maurice C. Elliott and Mary C. Elliott, of Wicomico County, conveyed to J. Howard Adkins and Louise H. Adkins, his wife, "all that lot or parcel of land situate, lying and being in Barren Creek Election District of Wicomico County, on the northside and binding upon Main Street in Mardela Springs;... and bounded on the west by Branch Street; and known as the "Store House Lot".  
Wicomico County Land Records. Liber AJS No.921, f357.

Brattan-Taylor Building  
(Old Country Store)  
Main and Branch Streets  
Mardela Springs, Maryland 21837

Researched by:  
Lucile H. Horsley  
January 12, 1982

Joshua Brattan, b. 27 Jan 1784 - d. 29 Nov 1838, married  
Nancy Porter, b. 6 Apr 1781 - d. 8 Oct 1838.  
Graveyards and Gravestones of Wicomico, by John E. Jacob. Salisbury,  
Md., Salisbury Advertiser, 1971. p.12.

Joshua Brattan died 29 Nov 1838. The following sons were named in  
his will drawn 26 Nov 1838 and entered for probate 11 Dec 1838:

Anthony Brattan, eldest son, tract  
Franklin Brattan, exec., land pt. of ALLINS  
Joseph Brattan, exec., tract on Barren Creek Springs and tr.  
purchased of Thomas Gillis and John Powers  
Samuel Brattan )  
Lemuel Rush Brattan ) land left by uncle Joseph D. Venables  
James Thomas Brattan, if he should return home

Somerset County Wills. Liber JP 5, f35. (Somerset County Md. Wills, 1837-59,  
abstracted by Ruth Dryden. nd. p9) - - - - -

- 1838 On March 23, 1838, Joshua Brattan, of Somerset County, conveyed to his  
3/28 eldest son, Anthony Brattan, "for and in consideration of the natural  
love and affection which he...hath and beareth unto the said Anthony  
Brattan and also for the better maintenance, support, livelehood and  
preferment of him"... "all that part of a tract of land called and  
known as 'Young's Purchase' lying and being on a creek called Barren  
Creek in the county of Somerset... on the western side of the County  
road leading from Barren Creek to Sharptown, also a part of another  
tract of land adjoining the aforesaid tract upon the southside called  
and known by the name of 'Ill Neighborhood'... containing 154 acres  
and seven eighths of an acre more or less together with ... the house,  
buildings..."  
Somerset County Land Records. Liber GH No.9, f376-377.
- 1838 Joshua Brattan died November 29, 1838. In his will, drawn November 26  
11/29 and entered for probate on December 11, 1838, he leaves to his son  
Joseph Brattan the tract on Barren Creek Springs. Reference is made in  
the will to the store house, thereby confirming its existence as early  
as 1838.  
Somerset County Wills. Liber JP5, f35.
- 1840 Anthony Brattan and his wife, Sarah Ann Brattan, sold "one acre three  
quarters and twenty sq. peices (perches) ...together with all and  
singular the buildings, improvements" to Joseph Brattan for the sum of  
\$70.00. This parcel of land was a part of the tract called "Ill  
Neighborhood", "beginning at the first boulder of a tract called  
'Young's Purchase' thence south five perches to the public road leading  
from Barren Creek Springs to Vienna..."  
Somerset County Land Records. Liber LH, f425-426.

Brattan-Taylor Building  
(Old Country Store)

---

1847  
12/4 An entry in the store ledger for December 4, 1847 records the payment of \$12.00 to Joseph Brattan for rent. At this time Joseph's brother Samuel Brattan was the storekeeper and was also postmaster for the post office which was located in the store according to the day book of postal records.  
Original documents in possession of J. Howard Adkins.

The exact date the store house was built is unknown but the records indicate it was in existence as early as 1838. The size of the original building was 16' x 22'. This can be established from the measurements of the brick-floored basement beneath the store. The original cellar windows, which were removed when the building was enlarged in 1855/56 are still stored in the basement.

1849-  
1850 Lemuel Rush Brattan, a brother of Joseph, operated the store 1849 and 1850. It was during this period that Thomas B. Taylor went to work in the store as a clerk. Lemuel Rush Brattan was appointed as postmaster for 1849-50. Brattan decided to become a doctor and entered the University of Maryland Medical School where he completed his training in February 1854. He returned to Barren Springs to start his medical practice the following month. His office was located in a small building back of the Brattan-Taylor store building.  
Original documents in possession of J. Howard Adkins.  
To Speak of Many Things, About Some Mardela Doctors, Cemeteries and Bible Records, by J. Howard Adkins & Louise H. Adkins. 1981. p.6.  
(Xerox copy of typescript)

1850  
11/20 Thomas B. Taylor purchased the store merchandise from his employer in 1850 and with Washington R. Melson as his partner began operating the business. They paid \$5.25 to the Clerk of the Somerset County Court on November 20, 1850 for a "license to retail merchandize at Barren Creek Springs" under the name of "Melson & Taylor".  
Photocopy of license from Clerk of the Court, Somerset County.

1851  
1/17 The day book of postal records shows Thomas Beauchamp Taylor was appointed postmaster. The notice of his appointment was signed by Postmaster General M. K. Hall January 17, 1851.  
Original documents in possession of J. Howard Adkins.

Thomas B. Taylor was born near Barren Creek Springs on September 5, 1923, the youngest son of Thomas Taylor and Eliza Smith of Delaware. His mother died when he was born and his father, who was a sailor, died of yellow fever in Key West in 1832. There were two other children--Ellen Taylor who married Henry Vickers of Baltimore and Uriah Taylor.

Portrait and Biographical Record of the Eastern Shore of Maryland.  
NY, Chapman Publishing Co., 1898. p.680.

Brattan-Taylor Building  
(Old Country Store)

---

- 1852 In a deed of the 20 February 1852, Joseph Brattan and Elizabeth Brattan,  
2/20 his wife, conveyed to Thomas B. Taylor for \$50.00 "a lot of Land at  
Barren Creek Springs laid out of a tract of land called 'Ill Neighborhood'  
... beginning at a Cedar post on the northside of the County road leading  
from Barren Creek Springs to Vienna... with all and singular buildings,  
improvements... ".  
Somerset County Land Records. Liber LW 1, fl49.
- 1853 In 1853 Washington R. Melson left the business and moved to St. Michaels,  
Maryland. With the termination of the partnership Mr. Taylor became  
sole owner.  
Letter from Washington R. Melson to Thomas B. Taylor in possession of  
J. Howard Adkins.
- 1855- In 1855 and 1856 the store records include invoices made out to Mr.  
1856 Taylor personally for building materials which indicate that during  
this period the store building was enlarged to its present size. The  
original outside entry to the cellar is still visible but access is  
now by an inside stairwell. The store still contains the original  
14 inch heart pineshelf boards and counter tops. The remains of a  
glass candy case and an antique milk cooler are in the basement. The  
very old lock on the front door has a folding iron key. The wooden  
post office mail boxes are still in place. Except for the installation  
of electricity the store itself is essentially the same as it was  
following the 1856 expansion.  
Original documents in the possession of J. Howard Adkins and evidence  
available upon examination of the store structure.
- 1856 In 1856, Mr. Taylor, in partnership with a member of the Brattan family,  
had a schooner built at Vienna, Maryland. The account books show a net  
cost for the "Chesapeake Trader" of \$4,206.38. The schooner was fitted  
with jib rigged sails indicating it was designed for coastal trading.  
The invoice for paint was dated July 1856 suggesting she was launched  
after that date.  
Original documents in the possession of J. Howard Adkins.
- 1869 In 1869 Thomas B. Taylor was elected<sup>ed</sup> member of the Board of County  
Commissioners.  
Portrait and Biographical Record of the Eastern Shore of Maryland,  
NY., Chapman Publishing Co., 1898. p.680.

Brattan-Taylor Building  
(Old Country Store)

- 1871 The State Gazette and Merchants' and Farmers' Directory of Maryland and District of Columbia, published in 1871, lists the following stores in Barren Creek.

Bacon, John H, grocer  
Bodsworth, J. L., general mdse  
Bradley, Azariah, grocer  
Mills, Stephen, grocer  
Spencer, McAllister, groceries  
Taylor, Thomas B., country store  
Waller, E. M., grocer

The Star Gazette... Baltimore, Sadler, Drysdale & Purnell, 1871. p.753.

- 1871 In 1871 Thomas B. Taylor was serving as treasurer of Wicomico County. Salisbury Advertiser, August 31, 1871. p.

- 1877 In the "Barren Creek Business References" listed in the 1877 Atlas of Wicomico, Somerset and Worcester Counties, Thomas B. Taylor's name is entered as follows:

Thomas B. Taylor, Dealer in Dry Goods  
Groceries and all Kinds of Goods usually  
kept in a Country Store

Atlas of Wicomico, Somerset & Worcester Cos., Md., Philadelphia, Lake, Griffing & Stevenson, 1877. p. 22.

- 1883 Thomas B. Taylor was elected to the Maryland General Assembly in 1883 and served one term.

- 1887 About 1887, the water from the mineral spring near the east entrance to the village of Barren <sup>Creek</sup> Springs was analyzed and the water bottled and sold by John Bacon and Thomas B. Taylor.  
The Salisbury Times, January 9, 1957. p.

- 1890 In 1890, Mr. Taylor retired from active participation in the operation of his store business, though he maintained ownership of the store until his death several years later.  
Portrait and Biographical Record of the Eastern Shore of Maryland. NY., Chapman Publishing Co., 1898. p.680.

Brattan-Taylor Building  
(Old Country Store)

---

- 1901 Thomas B. Taylor died October 9, 1901. In his will drawn October  
10/9 4th and entered for probate October 22, 1901, he made no disposition  
of his property. He instructed his attorney, Jay Williams, "to attend  
to my business affairs for me in my name and stead according to his  
judgment and discretion and in event of my death to be my sole Executor  
upon my estate".  
Wicomico County Wills. Liber LJC No.1, f36.
- 1901 On the 29th of October 1901 the creditors of Thomas B. Taylor, deceased,  
9/13 filed suit against the estate in Wicomico County Chancery Court. Mr.  
Taylor was a *bachelor*. His only surviving heirs were five nieces and  
nephews, the children of his deceased sister.  
Wicomico County Chancery Court. Liber EAT No.8, f269-303. No.1380.
- 1902 The personal estate of Thomas B. Taylor being insufficient to pay his  
2/26 creditors, the Court ordered a sale of the real estate of the deceased  
be held on February 26, 1902.  
Wicomico County Chancery Court. Liber EAT No.8, f269-303. No.1380.
- 1902 The report of the sale filed with the Chancery Court on September 13,  
9/13 1902 included the following:
- Item 12. All that lot of ground at the corner of Main Street and  
Branch Street in said village, improved by a storehouse, beginning for  
the outlines of the same in the center of Main Street and running by  
and with the west side of the store house ... by and with Branch Street  
to a cedar post... containing sixty four square perches, sold to  
Stephen A. Calloway for \$875.00.  
Wicomico County Chancery Court. Liber EAT No.8, f289.
- 1903 The sale having been duly ratified by the court, Jay Williams, executor  
4/9 of Thomas B. Taylor, dec'd, on April 9, 1903 conveyed to Stephen A.  
Calloway "No.12. All that lot of ground at the corner of Main and  
Branch Streets in said Village, improved by a storehouse... containing  
sixty four square perches of land more or less together with improve-  
ments thereon...  
Wicomico County Land Records. Liber JTT No.37, f214.
- 1908 In the listing of the Delaware, Eastern Shore of Maryland and Virginia  
Directory issued in 1908-1909 appears the following listing of stores  
in Mardela Springs (Barren Creek Springs)
- Calloway, S. A., general store  
Elliott, Charles L., general store  
Jackson, C. G. & Sons., general store  
Wilson, J. T., general store
- Delaware, Eastern Shore of Maryland and Virginia Directory, 1908-1909  
R. L. Polk & Company (title page missing)

Brattan-Taylor Building  
(Old Country Store)

---

- 1915      Stephen A. Calloway, "merchant of Mardela Springs", in his will  
3/9      drawn July 30, 1913 and entered for probate March 9, 1915, left to his wife  
          "the storehouse and merchandise if any during her natural life, Pattie E. Calloway,  
          only and from and after her death I give the same to my daughter,  
          Mary A. Elliott, wife of A. Roe Elliott". To his daughter,  
          Margaret E. Truitt, wife of Josiah C. Truitt, he left "the merchandise  
          if any which may be in the store house at Athol, at the time of my  
          my decease".  
          Wicomico County Wills. Liber JWD No.1, f61.
- 1919      Pattie E. Calloway sold to Mary A. Elliott and A. Rour Elliott,  
1/4      her husband, for \$100.00 her life interest in "the store and lot"  
          devised to her by the will of her late husband, Stephen A. Calloway,  
          being the same property conveyed to S. A. Calloway by deed from Jay  
          Williams, Executor of Thomas B. Taylor, deceased.  
          Wicomico County Land Records. Liber JCK No.112, f9.
- 1947      J. Asbury Holloway conveyed to A. Rowe Elliott and Mary C. Elliott,  
1/21      his wife, for \$1.00 "all that lot or parcel of land situate, lying  
          and being in Barren Creek Election District...on the northside and  
          binding upon Main Street, bounded on the north and east  
          by the land of Gelston Daugherty and wife; bounded on the West by  
          Branch Street; and being known as the 'Store House Lot' and being a  
          part of the same land which Stephen A. Calloway devised to his wife,  
          Patti E. Calloway, as life tenant, and at her death to her daughter,  
          Mary A. Elliott (same person as Mary C. Elliott), said being dated  
          July 30, 1913 and recorded among      Records in Office of Register  
          of Wills for Wicomico County, Maryland in Will Book JWD No.1, f61  
          and the said Pattie E. Calloway conveyed her life interest in said  
          property unto 'Mary A. Elliott and A. Rour Elliott, her husband as  
          joint tenants' being the same person as Mary C. Elliott and A. Rowe  
          Elliott".  
          Wicomico County Land Records. Liber JWTS No.285, f84.
- 1979      Mary C. Elliott, widow, conveyed to Maurice C. Elliott and Mary C.  
2/5      Elliott, for \$10.00 and other good, valuable and sufficient con-  
          siderations, a lot or parcel of land known as "Store House Lot" it  
          "being a part of the Stephen A. Calloway Real Estate; and being the  
          same land that was conveyed to Mary C. Elliott and A. Rowe Elliott,  
          her husband, as tenants by the entireties by the first item of a  
          deed from J. Asbury Holloway, dated January 23 (21) 1947 and re-  
          corded among Land Records of Wicomico County in Liber JWTS No285,  
          f85 (f84), the said A. Rowe Elliott having subsequently departed  
          this life whereupon the title to said property became vested  
          absolutely in Mary C. Elliott, the survivor of them."  
          Wicomico County Land Records. Liber AJS No.915, f70.  
          (description of location the same as that given in deed of June 7,  
          1979 which follows)

Brattan-Taylor Building  
(Old Country Store)

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1979      Maurice C. Elliott and Mary C. Elliott sold to J. Howard Adkins  
6/7      and Louise H. Adkins, his wife a parcel of land "situate, lying  
and being in Barren Creek Election District of Wicomico County on  
north side of and binding upon Main Street in Mardela Springs  
and bounded on the north and East by lands of Gelston Daugherty  
and wife; and bounded on the West by Branch Street; and known as  
the 'Store House Lot' and being the same land conveyed unto  
Maurice C. Elliott and Mary C. Elliott, joint tenants, by Mary  
C. Elliott by deed dated February 5, 1979, and recorded among the  
Land Records of Wicomico County, Maryland," in Liber AJS No.915,  
f70.  
Wicomico County Land Records. Liber AJS No.921, f357.



## Brattan-Taylor Building

Dimensions at present time

Entire Building

36 Feet wide by 48 Feet long Rectangular

Store portion

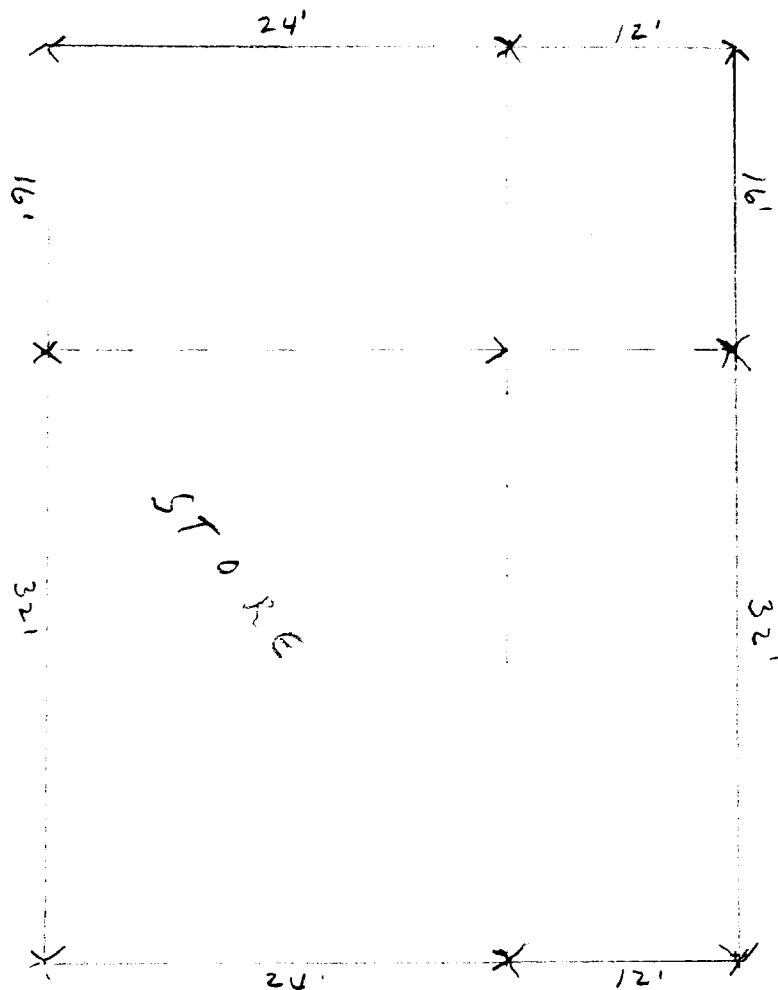
24 feet wide by 32 feet long

1st Floor apartment

L Shaped

12 feet wide by 48 feet long on east side

16 feet wide by 24 feet wide on north side



2nd floor apartment 24 feet wide x 38 feet long

Each apartment contains living and dining space, kitchen, bath and 2 bedrooms.

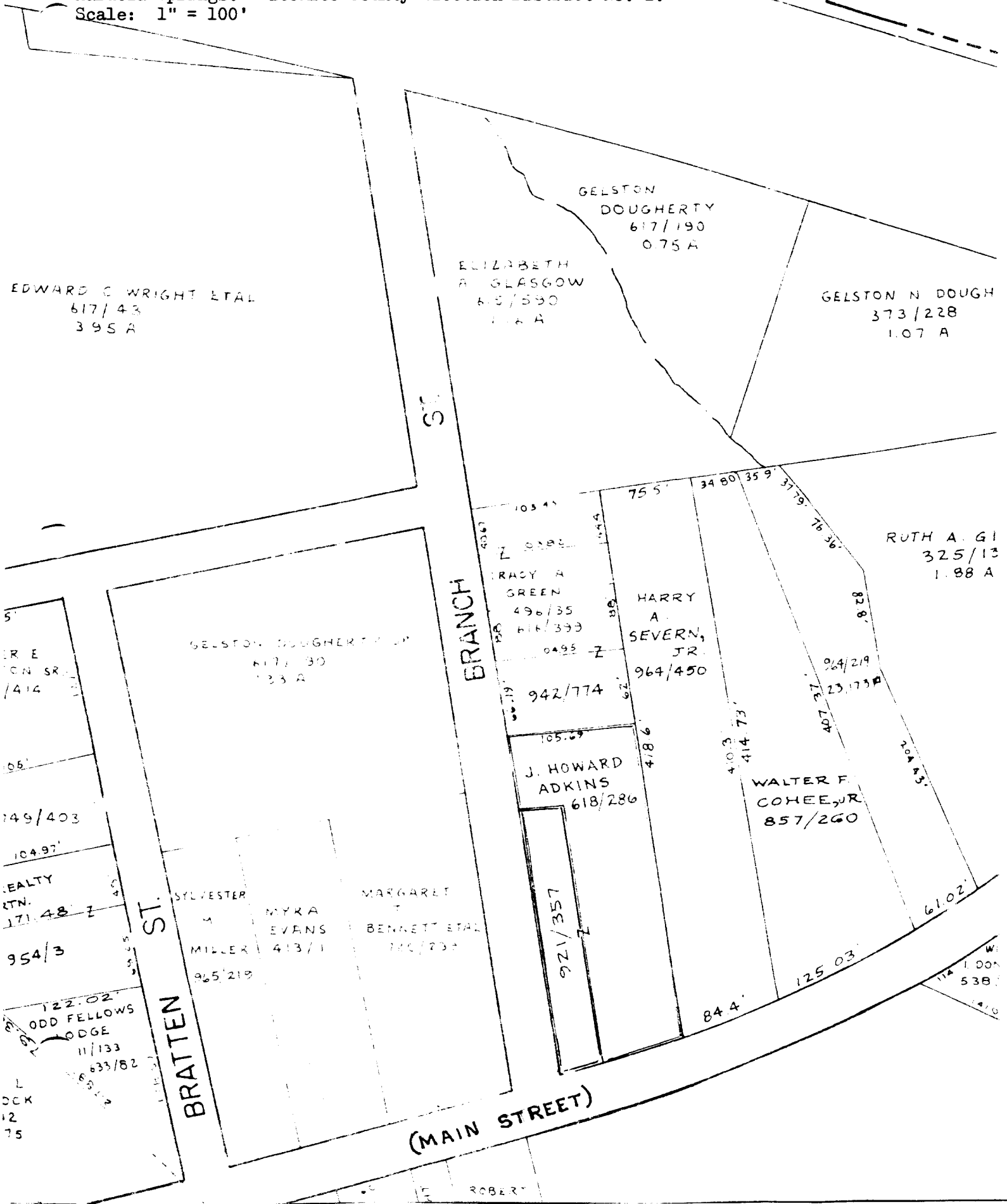
## Window changes

- 1st floor 1930's L shaped addition  
Window relocations for remodeling
- 2. 2nd floor  
North end originally had 2 windows  
in remodeling one window was removed entirely and  
second window relocated leaving one window on 2nd.  
floor in north end.
- 3. In attic, windows were closed entirely

LIMIT

WI-136

Md. State Dept. of Assessments & Taxation. Map Division. cl974. Oct. 1, 1981.  
Property Maps of Wicomico County. Liber 966.  
Supplementary Sheet WI 8-A. Sheet 1 of 2.  
Mardela Springs. Wicomico County Election District No. 1.  
Scale: 1" = 100'



MAP 8A  
BLOCK  
PARCEL

PROSECUTOR GENERAL  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
DIVISION OF TAXATION  
ALBANY, NEW YORK

Insurance Map of Salisbury, Md.  
Sanborn Map Company, Pelham, NY

cl931 with update to 1949

Scale: 1" = 50'

MAR. 1931  
**SALISBURY**  
Md.

31

**MARDELA SPRINGS**

Located 12 Miles N.W. of Salisbury Court House

POPULATION 475

PREVAILING WINDS S. W

**WATER FACILITIES:**

Fire service supply only 6 driven wells equipped with  
pumper connection

**FIRE DEPT.:**

volunteer, 1 chief, 2 asst chiefs, 35 men. 1 American-LaFrance  
500 G.P.M. pumper, 300 gal booster tk, 750' 2 1/2" hose & 150' booster hose  
1 Ford truck with a 500 G.P.M.  
tk, 250' 2 1/2" hose & 300' 1 1/2" hose

Fire alarm by siren on Fire Station  
Paving on main streets  
No Fire Limits NO Fire Resistive Roofing Ord.

WI-136

NO EXPOSURE

PICKLE  
WORKS

BAILEY

UNPAVED

LOADING  
SHED

BRACKET  
W. HO.

25 1/2

RD. 17  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29

SHEDLING

473

WALLER (RICH)

SHED

243

Long  
Tubular

EMMANUEL  
METHODIST  
CHURCH

MAIN

235 MAIN

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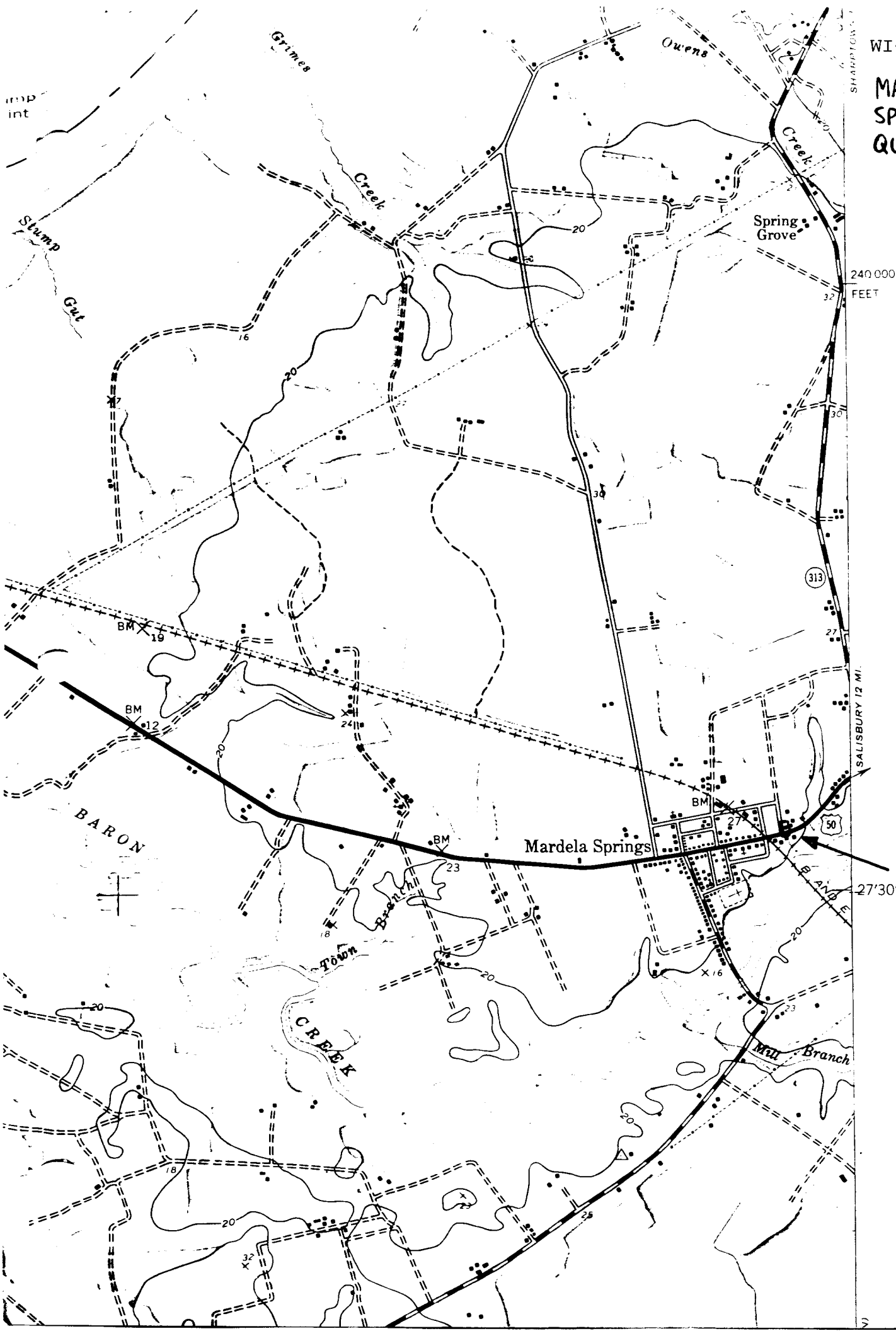
309

310



WI-136

MARDELA  
SPRWGS  
QUADRANGLE



240 000  
FEET

SALISBURY 12 MI.

WI-136

27'30"





WI-136

x Nathan - Taylor County State  
Mudela Springs, Wilkes County  
Jacqueline F. Bianchi, Photographer  
Taken May 7, 1982  
Southwest view



WI-136

Brattan - Taylor County Store  
Wisconsin County  
Jacqueline F. Redman, photographer

Taken May 7, 1952

South facing Main Street



WI-136.

Grattan-Taylor County Store  
Linn County.  
Jacqueline F. Branch, photographer  
Taken May 7, 1982  
Southeast view



WI-136

Brattan - Taylor County Store  
Maidela Springs, Wilkes County  
Jacqueline F. Branch, photographer  
Taken May 7, 1982  
West view





WI-136

Beattan - Taylor County Store  
Mandela Springs, Wisconsin County  
Superior, Ft. Snelling, photograph  
Taken May 7, 1982

Interior - original heart pine counter



WI-136

Brattan-Taylor Country Store  
Marcella Springs, Weld County  
Eugene F. Winkler, photographer

Taken May 7, 1982

Interior - Original counter, front door  
and two windows



WI-136

Blattner-Taylor Country Store  
Widela Springs, Williams County  
Caroline F. Damm, photographer

Taken May 7, 1982

Original wooden panel from front  
door



WI-136

Brattan-Taylor County Store  
Mudata Springs, Wilcox County  
Jacqueline F. Beach, photographer  
Taken May 7, 1982  
Original of int door (south view) &  
hardware





WI-136

Bentley-Taylor Country Store  
Mandela Springs, Wisconsin County

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Jacqueline F. Darnick, photographer  
Taken May 7, 1982  
Memorabilia found in store



WI-136

Brattan-Taylor Country Store  
Worcester County  
Frederick J. Deane, photo

April, 1981

Home and Howard Sts.

Country Store  
71 Main & Church Sts.  
71 Main Springs, Md